



RITTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

# CONNECTIONS

SUMMER 2023

# ALL TOGETHER NOW





# from Sandra



*As a newcomer to Ohio, I was thrilled to join more than 300 library directors, fiscal officers, trustees and supporters at the Statehouse recently during the Ohio Library Council's Library Legislative Day. The top issues were library funding in the biennial state budget, and the tremendous range of programs and services offered to Ohio's nearly 8 million cardholders. We heard from Governor DeWine*

*- as well as House and Senate leaders - about the important role libraries play in early childhood literacy. I now have a better appreciation of the process that ensures libraries are a statewide priority!*

*At the library we are getting ready for our summer reading program, All Together Now. This theme aims to bring people together no matter their age, socio-economic status, political affiliation or location. Everyone can find a book to suit their interests and make friends in the process. Focusing on kindness, friendship and unity, this year's theme presents endless opportunities for sharing our library with the community.*

*I look forward to my first summer in Vermilion, especially the outdoor concerts and festivals. The local area has a lot to offer everyone, and our library is no exception. Please peruse this newsletter for a sample of what awaits you this summer!*

*Sandra Licks, Director*

## youth nonfiction overhaul

Exciting things are happening in the Youth Services Department. Over the past 4 months the department underwent a rigorous collection assessment of the nonfiction areas. What this means is assessing the accuracy of information, the condition, and the relevance. Is Pluto still listed as the ninth planet? Does the book have a mystery icky spot on it? Does it talk about typewriters being the latest and greatest invention? Don't worry - you won't find those here. With the support of Ritter Board of Trustees, we are purchasing over \$30,000 of new materials with funding from the Edge Estate Fund and the Adele A. Kovanic Trust to rejuvenate the collection. These titles will



*L - R: Aimee, Collin, Ann, Elaine, and Sandra show off the latest acquisitions*

highlight STEM, especially the human body, technology, and finance. We will introduce books on arts and cultures including a music collection featuring vocal, piano, guitar music books. Further, we are investing in updating our collection of resources in history from Mesopotamia to the war in Ukraine. We hope you and your little ones find a new love learning about facts with this new collection.

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## HOURS

Monday - Thursday  
9:30 AM - 8:30 PM  
Friday & Saturday  
9:30 AM - 5:30 PM  
Sunday  
1 PM - 5 PM

5680 Liberty Ave  
Vermilion, OH 44089  
440-967-3798

info@ritter.lib.oh.us  
ritterpubliclibrary.org

## LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Sunday, June 18th  
*Fish Festival*  
Tuesday, July 4th  
*Independence Day*

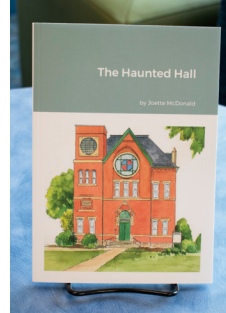
# a local book for every student

A 2023 goal of the Ritter Public Library Foundation is to help the library collaborate with Vermilion Public Schools to benefit literacy and reading scores in Vermilion. Consultants concur that getting fun, relevant and intriguing books into students' hands is critical.

As a first step, the Foundation is arranging for 4th graders who take their annual May "Walk about Town", to receive a copy of a delightful 'ghost story' written by former teacher, Joette McDonald and illustrated by local artist, Janet Waggoner. The Ghost story is set in the Old Town Hall (currently the Harbourtown Fine Arts Center). The book weaves in a lot of history about Vermilion Township's Town Hall. Students will get a feel for Vermilion's rich

history as well as receiving their own copy of Joette's book.

Additional copies will be given to Ritter Public Library, Vermilion Elementary School's library and 6 teachers. Teachers will have the opportunity to incorporate the 'ghost story' into their learning plans. Other anonymous donors have helped the Foundation launch this project.



Because pre-school children are not always exposed to reading when they first attend school, the Ritter Foundation will be exploring additional ways to help the library promote the literacy of young children in 2023.

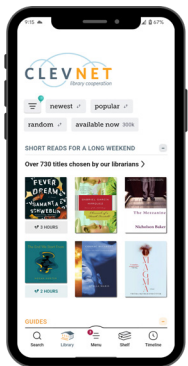
## new: binge boxes



We're constantly adding new items to keep our collection fresh and exciting. Binge Boxes are one recent addition, funded by the Ritter Public Library Foundation. They are perfect for movie night, kids parties, or any time you're feeling a little indecisive. Each Binge Box contains 4-6 movies focused around a central theme. Check out collections like *Never Travel with Tom Hanks*, *On Wednesdays We Wear Pink*, or *Kids Movies: The 90s*. Find them on display in our A/V section now.

## meet libby

If you are a user of Ritter Public Library's ebook and audiobook offerings, you may have noticed that the legacy OverDrive app has been discontinued. Don't despair - the Libby app provides access to the same huge selection of materials with a streamlined and more user-friendly interface.



Your checkouts, holds, and wishlist will all transfer seamlessly when you log into Libby.

If you want help learning to use the Libby app or any of our emedia apps, library staff can assist you! To schedule your one-on-one appointment, call us at 440-367-3798.

## little free fridge now open

Have you heard about freedges? A "freedge" is a free refrigerator and dry goods shelf that operates on a "take what you need, give what you can" basis. Anyone is welcome to use the space regardless of their financial status. This mutual aid concept is gaining global momentum, and freedges have opened nearby, at Elyria Public Library's South Branch and Lorain Public Library's South Branch.

Our freedge, made possible by funding from the Dave Arnold Project Fund, has been up and running for a few weeks, but its grand opening will coincide with the Summer Reading Kick Off on Saturday, June 3rd from 2 - 4 PM. Stop by our Little Free Fridge to get what you need, drop off a donation, or just see what it's all



*The Little Free Fridge is located near the A/V section in the former group study room*

about. We welcome donations of fresh produce (including home-grown), refrigerated dairy, eggs, precooked or cured meats, meat/dairy alternatives, shelf-stable foods, and household supplies.

In the spirit of our summer reading theme, All Together Now, we will also be decorating the Little Free Fridge room with a community art project during the grand opening. Make your creative mark on this new community space!

# Summer Reading 2023

# All Together Now

June 3 - July 29



Summer reading season is our favorite time of year here at Ritter Public Library! We've been busy all spring planning awesome events, prizes, and activities for all ages from baby to adult. Our theme for this summer is All Together

Now, which is all about kindness, friendship, and unity. You will see this theme carried throughout our programs and activities - join us for our Community Cleanup day on Sunday, July 16th, or get the whole family together for one of our Family Fun Nights. You'll find plenty of programs for all ages and stages across the next few pages. Thank you to the Friends of Ritter Public Library for their sponsorship!

Participating is easy! Track your reading using the Beanstack app on your smartphone or visit [ritter.beanstack.com](http://ritter.beanstack.com) to get started. Paper trackers will also be available for the Pre-K and Adult age categories. Record your reading and completion of bonus activities (like reviewing books and attending programs). You'll earn rewards at milestones as well as tickets to enter for grand prizes like a LEGO ice cream truck, diamond painting set, Lake Erie Crushers tickets, or gift cards to local businesses. We can't wait to see what we all achieve together this summer!

## Summer Reading Kick Off

Saturday, June 3rd

### Magic Show with Michael Mage (Family)

1:30 PM

Fun illusions for the whole family.

### Kindness Rocks! Rock Painting (Adult)

11 AM - 3 PM

Paint a rock for library staff to hide around town to spread kindness.

### Little Free Fridge Grand Opening (Family)

2 PM - 4 PM

Help us decorate our new community fridge room.

# EVENTS

Our full calendar is always available at [ritterpubliclibrary.org/events](http://ritterpubliclibrary.org/events)

## Children

### Storytimes

Monday - Thursday

June 5 - July 31

Enjoy themed stories, crafts, and activities Mondays through Thursdays while storytime is in session. Our storytimes are best for ages 1 - Pre K.

### Twilight Storytime

Mondays

6:30 PM

Snuggle up for stories with Ms. Aimee before you snuggle into bed.

### All Together Now Storytime

Tuesdays

10 AM

We're in this together! Learn about different countries and people all around the world at this global storytime.

### Learn Through Play

Wednesdays

10 AM

Come and play with us! We fill our storytime room with fun, educational toys for children across developmental stages, then top it off with music and books.

### Storytime at the Beach or Park

Thursdays

10 AM

Join us at Main Street Beach or Friendship Park (just east of the library) for storytime in the summer sunshine. In the event of bad weather, storytime will be held inside the library.

### Paws & Pages

Tuesdays and Third Saturdays

10:30 AM

Our reading dog, Fiona the golden doodle, comes to the library for kids to practice their reading and petting skills.

### Mad Science Monday

Mondays

11 AM

Join us for wacky, zany, and sometimes messy science experiments! Perfect for elementary-age scientists.



## Find It Friday

Fridays in June and July

All Day

Search the library for a special mascot and win a prize!

## LEGO Club

Second Saturdays

10 AM - 12 PM

We get out our collection of LEGO bricks for kids to build a masterpiece. We'll display their creations on top of our shelves all month.

## Pokémon League

Third Saturdays

10 AM - 12 PM

Young Pokémon masters can bring their trading cards and handheld games to compete with fellow trainers. We'll provide crafts, activities, and movies to accompany.

## Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Drop off: June 26 - 29

Pick up: June 30 - 31

Ever wonder what your stuffed animals get up to when you're not around? We do, too! Kids can drop off their favorite stuffie for a night of mischief and mayhem - we'll provide photographic evidence when they pick their buddy up.

## Pre-K End of Summer Party

Friday, July 28

1 PM - 3 PM

Wrap up the summer reading season with a party featuring community helper vehicles! This celebration is for our pre-k friends and their grownups.



# Family

## Family Fun Night: Music with the Mouse

Thursday, June 8

5:30 PM

Sing your heart out to Disney favorites old and new at this family karaoke night.

## Family Fun Night: Superhero Jeopardy

Thursday, June 22

5:30 PM

Team up with your family to test your knowledge of all things superhero.

## Puzzle Palooza **RR**

Friday, June 30

2 PM

Compete as an individual or a group to assemble a puzzle the fastest! The top 3 winners will receive a special prize.

## Family Board Game Night

Third Wednesdays

6 PM

Join us around the table for an evening of board games. Bring a game to share with the group, or choose from our collection. All ages welcome, though some games may be complicated for small children.

## Family Fun Night: Super Smash Brothers Night

Thursday, July 6

5:30 PM

Go head to head at this Super Smash Brothers and Mario Kart battle royale. Enjoy Mario-themed crafts and activities.

## Community Cleanup **RR**

Sunday, July 16

2 PM - 4 PM

Come together with us to care for and beautify our public spaces

by picking up trash and debris at a local park. Location to be announced, in coordination with the Vermilion Parks Department.

## Family Fun Night: Bingo Night

Thursday, July 20

1 PM

Come play this classic with the whole family and compete for your chance to win prizes.

## Inclusion Fair

Saturday, August 5

1 PM - 4 PM

At our first ever Inclusion Fair, we'll have stations set up throughout the building showcasing different organizations and adaptive devices. Discover resources for yourself, your family, and friends.

## Escape Room **RR**

Tuesday, August 8

10 AM, 11 AM, 2 PM, & 3 PM

Race against the clock to make your escape.

# Tween & Teen

## Make It Monday

Mondays in June and July

2:30 PM

On Mondays, we make things. Fire up your creativity with a new craft each week. All materials will be provided. Teens entering grades 6 - 12 welcome.

June 5: Paint Book Ends to decorate the Teen Room

June 12: Bubble Art

June 19: Rainbow Bracelets

June 26: Bad Art

July 3: Nautical Wall Decor

July 10: Coffee Wrap Kindness

July 17: Painting (wear clothes that can get paint on them)

July 24: 8-Bit Art

**RR** Registration is required. Visit [ritterpubliclibrary.org/events](http://ritterpubliclibrary.org/events) or call 440-967-3798 to register.

## Candy Sushi Creation

Saturday, June 10

1:30 PM

We're recreating sushi favorites in candy form. All materials will be provided.

## Dungeons & Dragons **RR**

Second & Fourth Wednesdays

5:30 PM

This is your chance to try the hit game! Each session will be a standalone adventure with characters premade and ready to play. Teens in grades 6 - 12 welcome.

## Battle of the Books Club

Third Wednesdays

5 PM

Get competitive with your reading! Grades 4 - 8 will represent us at the Battle of the Books quiz bowl this September.

## Teen Board Game Night

Fourth Tuesdays

4 PM

Bring your friends or make new ones at our monthly board game session. Pick from our collection, or bring one to share with the group.

## 8-Bit Art

Saturday, July 8

1:30 PM

Recreate your favorite character with perler beads. Teens in grades 6 - 12 welcome.

## Super Smash Brothers

### Tournament **RR**

Friday, August 25

2:30 PM

Smash the competition & win the golden plunger! Teens in grades 6-12 welcome. Registration takes place in advance or in person starting at 1 PM the day of the event.

# Adult

## Cookies & Coloring **RR**

First Thursdays

11 AM

Color, chat, relax, and enjoy homemade cookies at this adults-only coloring session.

## Bingo with Kingston **RR**

Third Mondays

10:30 AM

Kimberly from Kingston Healthcare will join us for bingo, complete with prizes.

## Canvas Bag Make & Take **RR**

Monday, June 19

2 PM

Come decorate your own personalized canvas bag, perfect for toting your books. All materials will be provided.

## Adult Storytime **RR**

Tuesdays, 6/6, 6/20, 7/18, 8/1, 8/15, & 8/29

11 AM

Our new storytime especially for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities provides interactive stories, crafts, music, and dance. Individuals, care groups, and caregivers welcome; caregivers must remain present with adults requiring supervision.

## Genealogy Resource Sharing Group

Tuesdays, 6/6, 7/11, & 8/1

6 PM

Diving deeper into your family history, or not sure where to find the information you're looking for? Come learn with knowledgeable library staff and fellow genealogy enthusiasts. Bring your current project and your laptop, if you have one; library computers will also be available for use.

## Ritter Reads Book Discussion Group

First Wednesdays

6 PM

This book discussion group with no required reading is perfect for those who love to talk books, but don't want to be confined to an assigned book. We talk about what we've been reading lately and walk away with new ideas for our "To Be Read" lists.

## The Top 100 of the Last 100 Book Discussion Group

Second Fridays

10 AM

We're reading through the bestselling books of the last century!

June: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot

July: *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel

August: *The Guernsey Literary and*

*Potato Peel Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

## Tech Basics Classes **RR**

*Get to Know Your Android*

*Smartphone Part 1*

Monday, June 12 at 2 PM

*Get to Know Your iPhone Part 1*

Tuesday, June 13 at 2 PM

*Get to Know Your Android*

*Smartphone Part 2*

Monday, June 26 at 2 PM

*Get to Know Your iPhone Part 2*

Tuesday, June 27 at 2 PM

*Online Security for Older Adults*

Monday, July 10 and Tuesday,

July 11 at 2 PM

*Email Basics*

Monday, July 24th and Tuesday,

July 25th at 2 PM

*Everyday Apps and Beyond*

Monday, August 7 and Tuesday, August 8 at 2 PM

Learn the basics of operating your smartphone or tablet at this class series designed for

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new smartphone users or those who would like to feel more comfortable using their devices. No prior knowledge is assumed. Bring your devices to class for hands-on learning.

### **Shelf Indulgence Book Discussion Group**

**Third Thursdays  
3 PM**

At our newest book discussion group, we read contemporary fiction, fantasy, romance and more.

June: *The Ten Thousand Doors of January* by Alix Harrow

July: *The Keeper of Lost Things* by Ruth Hogan

August: *When We Were Bright and Beautiful* by Jillian Medoff

### **Classic Movie Night**

**Third Tuesdays  
6 PM**

We're bringing the classic cinema experience right here to the library! Sit back, relax, and munch on fresh popcorn while you enjoy a different classic film each month.

June: *Meet Me in St Louis* (1944)

July: *Singing in the Rain* (1952)

August: *Ten Angry Men* (1957)

### **Brewed Awakening Book Social**

**Fourth Thursdays at Brewed Awakening Vermilion  
2:30 PM**

Enjoy great books, great conversation, and great coffee. Sip on your favorite beverage while we discuss this month's read.

June: *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge

July: *A Spanish Sunrise* by Boo Walker

August: *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer

### **Crafting with Angela RR**

**Last Wednesdays**

**6 PM**

Angela will lead you through a new craft each month. All materials will be provided.

June: Beach-themed clothespin wreath

July: Friendship-themed wall decor

August: Pressed flower luminary

### **Fall Growing and Preserving RR**

**RR**

**Fridays, July 7, 14, 21, & 28**

**2 PM**

Throughout this series of presentations, Dan Harkenrider from Emerson Farm and Market Garden will teach us the entire process of growing our own fall vegetables starting with the August planting season, as well as how to preserve your bountiful harvest.

### **Harry Potter Trivia RR**

**Monday, July 31**

**6 PM**

Calling all *Harry Potter* fanatics - test your knowledge for a chance to win prizes.

### **Terry Pluto on Cleveland**

**Sports RR**

**Tuesday, July 25**

**6 PM**

Long-time sports columnist for the Cleveland Plain Dealer Terry Pluto will visit the library to talk Cleveland sports and answer audience questions.

### **Local Author Fair RR**

**Sunday, August 13**

**2 PM**

Meet local authors and purchase signed books, then enjoy local treats while you listen to the authors read excerpts from their books. Authors in attendance include Liz Ferro (*Finish Line Feeling*), Angie Hockman (*Shipped*), Otto Borsich (*A Chef is Born*), Kate Norris (*When You and I Collide*), and Emilia Rosa (*Finding Cristina*).

### **Crazy Pet Enthusiast Party RR**

**Monday, August 28**

**6 PM**

Is your furry friend the main character of your household? Join us for this pet-themed party where we'll create crafts all about our animal companions.







RITTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

5680 Liberty Ave  
Vermilion, OH 44089

## *friends support library programs*

When the late Betty Reffner formed the Friends of Ritter Public Library, little did she know that the 6 member group in the 1980s would expand to a group of 120+ members by 2023. Over the years, this group of individuals has worked diligently to continue their mission of focusing public attention on library services, facilities and needs, helping to promote the use and enjoyment of the library, and developing supplemental funding to support the library. Through the years we have provided benches, planted trees, conducted The Friends Present concert series, funded Summer Reading Programs

and provided other programs or services in support of the library.

We support our efforts through fundraising activities like our popular annual book sale. This year our March book sale was a great success and we look forward to holding a second book sale in August. A wine tasting event in partnership with Brummer's Chocolates is in the planning stages for October. And who knows? Perhaps there will be the ever-popular Chocolate Fest in Vermilion's future. Stay tuned!

We invite you to join the Friends of Ritter Public Library. We welcome your talents, ideas and desire to support the jewel of



*The Friends held a traditional English-style coronation tea fundraiser this spring, their first event of this kind*

Vermilion. Membership forms are available inside the library or on the library's website under the "support us" tab.

*Always a Friend,  
Reenie Rak, President*

## **Be the first to know!**

Follow us on social media and sign up for monthly email newsletters to find out about new events, services, and more



Scan the QR code using the camera on your smartphone